

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00125 01 OF 03 121414Z
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03
L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 ACDA-10 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 PRS-01 /051 W
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O R 121312Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1066
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6684
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 0125

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCHEON, JANUARY 11, 1977

SUMMARY: AT THEIR REGULAR LUNCHEON ON JANUARY 11, NATO
PERMREPS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

1. VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE
 2. EXERCISE LOCKED GATE 77
 3. NATO INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS IN CAPITALS
 4. DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING ON NATO AEW
 5. UK LIGHTNING FIGHTER AIRCRAFT TO VISIT USSR
- SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 00125 01 OF 03 121414Z

6. GENERAL CLOSE AND WP CAPABILITY
7. NATO AND DISARMAMENT ISSUES
8. DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT

NOTE: AS A NEW SEASON OF PERMREP LUNCHEONS OPENS,
ADDRESSEES ARE REIMINDED THAT THESE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS
AMONG THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENT-
TIVES ARE INFORMAL AND OFF-THE-RECORD. BY TRADITION,
THEY SHOULD NOT BE REFERRED TO AND THE STATEMENTS BY
PARTICIPANTS MAY IN NO CASE BE ATTRIBUTED BY NAME.

END SUMMARY.

1 VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE

THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED THE PERMREPS THAT VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE PLANNED TO VISIT NATO HEAD-QUARTERS MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 24, TO MEET WITH THE COUNCIL AND TO CALL ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO RECEIVE THE VIEWS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT'S HOSTS, AND TO DISCUSS THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S EARLY THINKING. STATE 5532 DTG 110332Z JAN 77) SYG LUNS SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD VERY MUCH TO THE VISIT, AND THIS SENTIMENT WAS ECHOED BY SEVERAL PERMREPS. LUNS SAID THAT HE HOPED TO HOST A LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF MONDALE.

2. EXERCISE LOCKED GATE 77

LUNS SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED AN INVITATION FROM ADMIRAL BELL-DAVIES, THE SAACLANTREP, WHICH INVITED LUNS AND THE PERMREPS TO VISIT EXERCISE LOCKED GATE 77, WHICH TAKES PLACE IN PART IN PORTUGUESE WATERS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD DECLINED THIS INVITATION, AND HE ADVISED PERMREPS TO DO LIKEWISE, SINCE AT THIS TIME SUCH VISITS BY LUNS AND PERMREPS TO PORTUGAL MIGHT "STIR UP TROUBLE." HE EXPECTED THAT ADMIRAL KIDD WOULD EXTEND THE SAME INVITATION TO PERMREPS, BUT IT WAS HIS FEELING THAT THAT INVITATION ALSO SHOULD BE DECLINED. DE FREITAS-CRUZ
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 00125 01 OF 03 121414Z

(PORTUGAL EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THE SYG, AND THE PERMREPS WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT THIS WAS NOT THE TIME TO VISIT LISBON.

3. NATO INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS IN CAPITALS

LUNS REPORTED TO THE PERMREPS REGARDING THE NATO INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING TO BE GIVEN IN CAPITALS BY GENERAL FOURNAIS. HE NOTED THAT THE DATES HAD BEEN SET FOR THE BRIEFINGS IN BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, AND THE HAGUE, WHICH WOULD BE CHAIRED BY MC CHAIRMAN ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON AND PRESENTED BY GENERAL FOURNAIS. LUNS NOTED ALSO THAT THE FRG, ITALY, AND NORWAY WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO BRIEFINGS AS WELL, BUT NO DATES HAD BEEN SET IN THESE CASES. LAGACOS (GREECE) STATED WITH SOME ACERBITY THAT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 00125 02 OF 03 121442Z

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03

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O R 121312Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
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SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1067
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6685
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 3 USNATO 0125

LIMDIS

A NOTIFICATION FROM THE SYG ABOUT THE BRIEFINGS. LUNS SAID THAT HE THOUGHT HE HAD THOROUGHLY EXPLAINED TO LEGACOS THAT THESE BRIEFINGS WERE OFFERED, AND IF THIS ORAL NOTIFICATION SHOULD HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED BY LETTER, AND HAD NOT BEEN, THIS WAS AN ERROR.

BUSCH (NORWAY) SAID THAT OSLO EXPECTED A BROAD ATTENDANCE AT THE BRIEFING THERE, INCLUDING ALL MINISTERS AND CHIEF MILITARY PERSONNEL. SVART (DENMARK) SAID THAT ALL MINISTERS AND POSSIBLY SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 00125 02 OF 03 121442Z

CHAIRMEN OF POLITICAL PARTIES WOULD ATTEND. FISCHBACH (LUXEMBOURG) SAID THAT WHEN THE BRIEFING IN HIS CAPITAL IS SCHEDULED, HE EXPECTED AN AUDIENCE OF 19-20, INCLUDING ALL MINISTERS. SCHUURMANS (BELGIUM) EXPECTED AN AUDIENCE OF 29 IN BRUSSELS, INCLUDING HEADS OF PARTIES, MILITARY CHEIFS AND MINISTERS. ALP (TURKISH DCM), ONCE THE BRIEFING IN ANKARA IS SCHEDULED, EXPECTED 12 TO ATTEND. DE FREITAS-CRUZ TENTATIVELY SUGGESTED MARCH 1 FOR THE BRIEFING IN LISBON, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLICITY ABOUT IT. LUNS SAID THAT THE BRIEFINGS SHOULD SHOW BOTH SIDES, AND NOT CONVEY A MESSAGE OF SOVIET SUPERIORITY IN EVERY RESPECT. HE REFERRED TO THE EVEN-HANDED PRESENTATION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AT THE LAST MINISTERIAL AS EXEMPLARY.

4. DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING ON NATO AEW

LUNS SUGGESTED THE DATE OF FEBRUARY 25 FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON AEW. CATALANO (ITALY) AND PAULS (FRG) DEMURRED. CATALANO SAID HE DID NOT SEE HOW ITALY COULD, SO SOON AFTER THE FINANCIAL EXPERTS' MEETING, ARRIVE AT A DECISION FOR A FEBRUARY 25 MINISTERIAL MEETING. PAULS SAID THAT THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF THE BUNDESTAG HAD NOT EVEN BEEN FORMED YET, AND THAT EVEN MARCH WOULD BE AN EARLY DATE. HARDY (CANADA) SUGGESTED THAT THE PERMREPS RETURN TO THE QUESTION OF THE SCHEDULING OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING AFTER THE FINANCIAL EXPERTS HAVE MET. HE SAID THAT TIME SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE "EVOLUTION OF CANADIAN THINKING." SCHUURMANS ASKED PAULS IF MINISTER LEBER, AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS, WAS CONCERNED NOT ONLY WITH FINANCIAL ASPECTS BUT ALSO WITH TECHNICAL ASPECTS REQUIRING CLARIFICATION. PAULS SAID THAT WAS CORRECT. TINE (FRANCE) SAID THAT, IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY BY SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 00125 02 OF 03 121442Z

ASST. SYG LABERGE, HE HAS WRITTEN TO HIM STATING THAT THE QUOTA DETERMINED BY LABERGE FOR FRANCE WAS "NOT WITHIN FRENCH MEANS." HOLMER (UK DCM) DID NOT STATE A POSITION REGARDING THE SCHEDULING OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. (COMMENT: THERE APPEARED TO BE A BROAD CONSENSUS AMONG PERMREPS THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME FURTHER DELAY WITH RESPECT TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING. END COMMENT.)

5. UK LIGHTNING FIGHTER AIRCRAFT TO VISIT USSR

HOLMER INFORMED THE PERMREPS THAT LATE THIS SUMMER THE UK HAD DECIDED TO SEND SIX OPERATIONAL LIGHTNING FIGHTER-INTERCEPTOR AIRCRAFT TO THE USSR FOR ONE WEEK, UNDER AN EXCHANGE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE USSR IN 1975, ACCORDING TO WHICH THE RUSSIANS WOULD EVENTUALLY SEND AN EQUIVALENT (THOUGH NOT YET SPECIFIED) CONTINGENT TO THE UK.

LUNS EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS, BOTH AS TO THE FACT OF THE THE UK AIRCRAFT VISIT TO THE USSR AND ITS TIMING, AND HE SUGGESTED THAT THE UK SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED IN THE NAC BEFORE TAKING THIS DECISION. PAULS, SCHUURMANS, SVART, AND HARDY EXPRESSED CONCERN, WITH PAULS FIRMER THAN THE OTHERS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE WONDERED IF THIS WAS THE TIME FOR SUCH A VISIT, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE PUBLICITY BEING GIVEN TO VARIOUS ESTIMATES OF SOVIET MILITARY STRENGTH. HE ALSO SAID IT WAS HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT THIS MIGHT BE MADE A MATTER OF FURTHER NATO CONSULTATIONS. HOLMER SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 00125 03 OF 03 121451Z
ACTION EUR-08

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L-01 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 SSO-00 ACDA-10 TRSE-00
SAJ-01 PRS-01 /051 W
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O R 121312Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1068
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6686
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
CINCLANT
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USDOCOSOULTH
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USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 3 OF 3 USNATO 0125

LIMDIS

DECISION REGARDING THE VISIT OF THE LIGHTNINGS
HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE UK, THE DECISION HAD NOT YET
BEEN CONVEYED TO MOSCOW. HARDY SAID THAT IF THIS
WERE SO, THERE STILL WAS AN OCCASION FOR CONSULTA-
TION. HOLMER DID NOT DISSENT. SVART ASKED WHAT
RETURN COULD BE EXPECTED FROM SUCH A VISIT
AND WHETHER THERE COULD BE REAL RECIPROCITY. HE ALSO
ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY PRECEDENT FOR SUCH A VISIT,
AND LUNS SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THERE WAS NOT.
TINE SAID HE INTENDED TO SEEK ADVICE
ON WHETHER THERE WAS A PRECEDENT FOR SUCH
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PAGE 02 NATO 00125 03 OF 03 121451Z

A VISIT.

ACTION REQUESTED: WE EXPECT THAT PERMREPS WILL
RETURN TO THE UK DECISION, PROBABLY AT THE NEXT
PERMREPS LUNCH ON JANUARY 18, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE
WASHINGTON COMMENT BY THAT TIME.

6. GENERAL CLOSE AND WP CAPABILITY

LUNS RAISED THE QUESTION OF BELGIAN GENERAL CLOSE
AND HIS FORTHCOMING BOOK. PAULS SAID HE WAS MOST

UNHAPPY AT CLOSE'S STATEMENT THAT THE RUSSIANS COULD GET TO THE RHINE IN 24 HOURS. PAULS WAS SUPPORTED BY SVART, TINE, AND LUNS. THE LATTER FELT THIS STATEMENT WOULD HAVE A DEMORALIZING EFFECT ON BELGIAN FORCES AND COULD BE INTERPRETED BY PUBLIC OPINION AS A CONFESSION OF THE FUTILITY OF NATO. SCHUURMANS SAID THAT UNDER BELGIAN LAW, THERE WAS NOTHING THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT COULD DO TO HALT THE EXPRESSION OF OPINION, EVEN BY A MILITARY OFFICER. EVEN IF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TRIED TO REPLACE HIM, HE WOULD CERTAINLY APPEAL TO THE CONSEIL D'ETAT, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY DECIDE THE ACTION WAS IMPROPER. TINE SAID HE HOPED THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT COULD DO SOMETHING TO PRESENT A MORE EVEN-HANDED ASSESSMENT. SCHUURMANS SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL HE SAW CLOSE'S BOOK. THE LATTER MAY ONLY BE ARGUING THAT THE SITUATION IS NOT HOPELESS IF EVERYONE DOES MORE.

7. NATO AND DISARMAMENT ISSUES

SVART SAID HE HOPED THAT THE PERMREPS COULD SOON DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL BY HIS GOVERNMENT AT THE NATO MINISTERIAL TO GIVE NATO A BETTER IMAGE ON DISARMAMENT ISSUES (PARA 20, USNATO 6794 NOTAL). THE PERMREPS AGREED THAT THIS MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED AT A MEETING

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 00125 03 OF 03 121451Z

IN THE SYG'S PRIVATE OFFICE OF AMBASSAODRS PLUS ONE.

8. DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT

SVART REPORTED TO PERMREPS THAT NO AGREEMENT HAD YET BEEN REACHED AMONG THE DANISH PARTIES REGARDING THE FOUR-YEAR DANISH DEFENSE BUDGET. THE FIGURES IN THE PROSPECTIVE AGREEMENT IMPLY AN INCREASE IN DANISH DEFENSE SPENDING. THE PRINCIPAL INCREASES ARE IN MILITARY PAY, HOME GUARD, AND FISHERY PROTECTION. THE PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE TO FINALIZING THE AGREEMENT SEEMED TO BEHOW TO FORMULATE AND INTERPRET A REVISION CLAUSE, WHEREBY THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT COULD BE REVIEWED UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES. (COMMENT: SVART DID NOTGO INTO THE DETAIL REGARDING THE AGREEMENT AS MUCH AS DID COPENHAGE 142 DTG 071712Z JAN 77 END COMMENT.) STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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